Backlog of cases in High Courts/ Supreme Court

576. SHRI S. S. SURJEWALA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of Civil, Criminal, Writs and miscellaneous cases pending in various High Courts and the Supreme Court of Indian upto 31st January, 1994; and

(b) whether Government propose to increase the number of Judges in the Supreme Court and various High Courts to expedite the backlog of the cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) The available information is furnished in the attached statement. *{See* below).

(b) At present, there is no proposal to increase the sanctioned strength of Judges of Supreme Court. It has been decided to create 60 posts of permanent/additional Judges, over and above the total- sanctioned strength of 515 permanent/ additional Judges of various High Courts in the Country to expedite the disposal of pending cases.

Statement

Pendency of cases in the Supreme Court & High Courts

Sl.N	Name of the Court	Number of cases pending
	Supreme Court	57398 (As on 3.2.94) (Admission Matters only)
	HIGH COURTS	No. of cases pending f As on 30.6.93') (Total of Civil, Criminal, Writs & Miscellaneous)
1.	Allahabad	6,95,880
2.	Andhra Pradesh	1,10,158
3.	Bombay	1,88,567
4.	Calcutta	2,26,445
5.	Delhi	1,55,345
6.	Gujarat	1,00,975
7.	Guwahati	23,994
8.	HinTachal Pradesh	18,212
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	68,321
10.	Karnataka	1,30,044
11.	Kerala	1,28,765
12.	Madhya Pradesh	82,028
13.	Madras	3,01,191
14.	Orissa	37,223
15.	Patna	79,786
16.	Punjab and Haryana	1,13,807
17.	Rajasthan	1,06,790
18.	Sikkim	74

Chief Election Commissioner's suggestions on electoral reforms

577. SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI:

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chief Election Commissioner has written to Government in December, 1992 suggesting certain electoral reforms; if so, what are the salient recommenda tions made; and

(b) what action has been taken on each of the recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) Yes, Sir. The main suggestions made by the Election Commission are given in the statement which is laid on the Table of the House. *{See* below).

(b) The proposal made by the Election Commission alongwith certain other proposals on electoral reforms are under consideration of the Government and it is proposed to bring forward a comprehensive package on electoral reforms.